

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /092 W

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R 031339Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2823

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO EGYPT

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON UK

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV ISRAEL

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, EFIN, EAID, BA, EG

SUBJECT : STATUS OF BAHRAINAI AID TO EGYPT

REFERENCE : (A) CAIRO 2726, (B) CAIRO 152

1. TRY AS WE MAY, EMBASSY CAN FIND NO LOCAL EVIDENCE OF BAHRAINAI YEAR-END FINANCIAL AID TO EGYPT AS STATED (REF B) BY EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL. AS FOR THE REPORTED ESTABLISHMENT, IN WAKE OF SADAT VISIT, OF A GULF ARAB FUND TO ASSIST EGYPTIAN ECONOMY (REF A), BAHRAINIS TELL US THEY WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN SIGNIFICANT WAY. IF THEY DO PARTICIPATE, IT WILL BE IN VERY MODEST, TOKEN FORM. MINISTER OF INFORMATION HAS POINTED OUT TO AMBASSADOR THAT BAHRAINAI FINANCIAL POSITION REQUIRES THAT
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ANY SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION WOULD SIMPLY HAVE TO BE BORROWED

BY BAHRAIN FROM SAUDI ARABIA OR KUWAIT OR ABU DHABI -- STATES
WHICH ARE ALREADY CONTRIBUTING DIRECTLY TO EGYPT.

2. IT IS JUST CONCEIVABLE, HOWEVER, THAT IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE
THE GULF SHAIKHDOMS APPEAR UNIFIED BEHIND SADAT BAHRAIN WOULD
BE ASKED TO JOIN THE FUND WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS
CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE FUNDED BY ONE OF ITS WEALTHIER NEIGHBORS.

3. BAHRAIN'S FINANCIAL POSITION, ALTHOUGH SOUND, IS ALREADY
DEPENDENT TO A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE ON FORMAL LOANS AND FORMAL
AND INFORMAL GRANTS FROM SAUDI ARABIA, ABU DHABI AND KUWAIT.
AS NOTED IN MANAMA 209, DESCRIBING THE 1976 BUDGET, LOANS
FROM ABU DHABI, FOR EXAMPLE, CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT SOURCE
OF REVENUE.
TWINAM

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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